

### ITEM 1. Proposed Project

Riverside County contains several OHV riding areas. In addition to these legal riding venues, there are numerous Bureau of Land Management (BLM) OHV legal riding trails throughout the county. Although these legal riding areas exist, many OHV riders choose to operate their vehicles illegally on public and privately owned lands. This has resulted in numerous complaints from citizens living near these areas. For the period of June 2007 through June 2008, there were 4,321 calls for service from the public regarding illegal OHV use.

Land management agencies across California are closing more public lands to OHV recreation because of conflicts with endangered species and other resource concerns. Throughout the county, these include the fringe-toed lizard and the desert tortoise. The fringe-toed lizard is State Endangered and Federally Threatened while the desert tortoise is State Threatened and Federally Threatened per the California Department of Fish and Game. Increased OHV use has also resulted in conflicts with hikers, equestrians, and other recreational users.

The Riverside County Sheriff's Department Off-Highway Vehicle Enforcement (R.O.V.E.) Team's proposed project consists of OHV education and enforcement. In the recent past, the team has been successful in both facets. Members of the team protect the rights of private land owners and ensure safe OHV operation within the legal venues available throughout the county. The requested funding has two purposes. The first is to cover manpower, and the second is to assist with the maintenance expenses associated with the use of the department's current OHV fleet.

The increased number of man-hours will result in more successful OHV education and enforcement. Presently the team deploys three days a week. That number periodically increases with the use of previously acquired grant funds to cover overtime. Enforcement occurs on weekends, weekdays, and holidays popular with OHV riders during the peak season, and as necessary throughout the year. Deputies enforce OHV laws and regulations and undertake various administrative duties (i.e. data collection, crime analysis, emergency operations, and community outreach events). During every contact with OHV enthusiasts, deputies educate and provide literature to people on legal riding venues and equipment used to operate OHV's safely. The team's new proposed project is requesting additional funding for future overtime.

The R.O.V.E. Team is the primary OHV enforcement and education entity within the department and has certified all of its members with two-wheel and four-wheel safety course certifications. The team currently has in its fleet six street legal dirt bikes, four UTV's, four ATV's, two 37' trailers, two trucks, and four SUV's (Ford Expedition XLT's). All of the equipment was purchased/leased with OHMVR grant funds except for three of the SUV's. Three of the SUV's are paid for by department funds. The SUV's are a critical component to the overall success of the project. They are used to haul dirt bikes to legal and illegal venues throughout the county. In addition, they are all equipped with four wheel drive, and are used for enforcement and prisoner transport. With a large OHV fleet, safe storage of this equipment was a necessity. All of the equipment, except for the three department funded SUV's, are stored at a local storage facility in the city of Beaumont. The facility provides covered parking for both trailers. Additional OHV vehicles are stored in a small roll-up container. The storage facility protects the equipment from foul weather, theft, etc. With the department's OHV fleet used so often, the machines require constant maintenance to ensure safe and successful deployments. Grant funding is being sought for maintenance of the off-road vehicles (six dirt bikes, four UTV's, and four ATV's) previously purchased with OHMVR funds.

The R.O.V.E. Team currently participates in Allied Agency Meetings, both within and out of the county, Public Meetings, Police Activity League (P.A.L.) functions, Youth Programs, Static Displays, Safety Expos, Law Enforcement Education Programs, and Media Relations. The R.O.V.E. Team continues to identify any necessary equipment indigenous to OHV operations. This includes but is not limited to vehicles, trailers, trucks, safety equipment, computer equipment, etc.

Members of the R.O.V.E. Team have written a Policy & Procedure Manual for R.O.V.E. operations. The team has discussed with B.L.M., the U.S. Forest Service, and other allied agencies the design/implementation of a pamphlet specific to Riverside County. The pamphlet will prevent misinterpretation of legal/illegal riding areas within the county. The pamphlet is currently being developed.

The R.O.V.E. program has increased the lawful and recreational use of OHV's. With the continued support of the department and the California State Parks, these objectives will continue to be met.

## **ITEM 2. Project Coverage**

Riverside County contains 7200 square miles of unincorporated land. Between 1980 and 1990, the number of residents grew by over 76 percent making Riverside the fastest-growing county in California. According to the most recent census data, Riverside County has a population of more than 2.0 million people. The county's vast land area and its short distance from a large portion of the population results in an abundance of opportunities for Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) use.

Two sensitive habitats have been identified within Riverside County, the fringe-toed lizard and the desert tortoise. The fringe-toed lizard's habitat contains no legal riding venues on or near it. Enforcement is vitally important to the survival of this species. The fringe-toed lizard is State Endangered and Federally Threatened according to the California Department of Fish and Game. Their habitat, which encompasses around 100 square miles, is near the unincorporated communities of Sky Valley, Desert Haven, Thousand Palms, and Del Web.

Both legal and illegal OHV use in the desert tortoise's habitat threatens this species survival. The desert tortoise is a small creature and can be difficult to see. There are more than a few BLM OHV legal riding trails throughout the habitat of the desert tortoise. This creature is clearly at risk by OHV enthusiasts who are recreating legally. For the OHV enthusiast who is not recreating legally, the risk to the desert tortoise increases. Some of these enthusiasts choose to recreate in the open desert where it is not legal, thus placing an increased risk to the desert tortoise. Their habitat, which is more than 100 square miles in size, is primarily east of the Coachella Valley. The desert tortoise is State Threatened and Federally Threatened according to the California Department of Fish and Game.

## **ITEM 3. Describe the frequency of the patrols**

On average, the R.O.V.E. team provides approximately 270 man-hours of enforcement and education per week. This equates to nine members deploying three days a week for ten hours a day. The team typically deploys on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. With the use of grant funds requested to cover overtime for OHV enforcement at the individual patrol stations, the man-hours of enforcement will significantly increase. The R.O.V.E. team works closely with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Code Enforcement, Tribal Law Enforcement, California Highway Patrol, U.S. Forest Service, California Department of Fish and Game, and other allied law enforcement agencies.

Enforcement occurs on weekends, weekdays, and holidays popular with OHV riders during the peak season and as necessary throughout the year. Deputies not only enforce OHV rules and regulations, but also undertake various administrative duties to include data collection, crime analysis, public meetings, emergency operations, and community outreach events. During every contact with OHV enthusiasts, deputies educate and quite often provide literature to people on legal riding venues available and equipment used to operate OHV's safely. The funding received, has been used to increase the ten hour work day, and for deployments on Sundays and holidays. The current funding being sought to cover manpower, will be used in the same manner.

## **ITEM 4. Deployment of Personnel**

On June 21, 2007, the Riverside County Sheriff's Department implemented the full-time Riverside County Off-Highway Vehicle Enforcement (R.O.V.E.) Team. The team consists of law enforcement personnel who will conduct OHV enforcement and education on a full-time basis. The team consists of (1) Sheriff's Sergeant and (8) Deputy Sheriffs' from the Special Enforcement Bureau (S.E.B.), all of whom are trained on the operation, enforcement, and education of OHV's.

In addition to the nine personnel assigned to the full-time R.O.V.E. team, certain individual Sheriff Patrol stations located throughout the county maintain their own off-road enforcement program. In the current fiscal times, their enforcement is unpredictable. Most of their enforcement is complaint based. The off-road equipment utilized by these various stations is maintained in satisfactory working order. When deployed, personnel from these stations increase the number of law enforcement man-hours being put-forth in the off-road enforcement and educational arenas.

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APP # 700064

### Law Enforcement - Page 1

1. Identify areas with high priority law enforcement needs because of public safety, cultural resources, and sensitive environmental habitats, including wilderness areas and areas of critical environmental concerns:

The unincorporated areas of Rancho California, Bad Lands, Gilman Hot Springs, Sunnyslope, Lake Matthews, Indio Hills, Painted Hills, Box Canyon, Chiriaco Summit, and North Shore are of high priority. Rancho California, Bad Lands, Gilman Hot Springs, Sunnyslope, and Lake Matthews are private lands and contain no legal OHV areas. Enforcement is conducted to prevent private property intrusions. In the Indio Hills area there is no legal OHV use, but the area encompasses a portion of the fringe toed lizard's habitat. The fringe toed lizard is State Endangered and Federally Threatened. Enforcement is to prevent private property intrusions and survival of the creature. Painted Hills, Box Canyon, Chiriaco Summit, and North Shore have legal BLM OHV trails. These areas include a portion of the desert tortoise's habitat. The desert tortoise is State and Federally Threatened. These areas are frequently patrolled to prevent both unlawful and safe OHV use, and the destruction of the desert tortoise and its habitat.

2. Describe how the proposed Project relates to OHV Recreation and will sustain OHV Recreation, motorized off-highway access to non-motorized recreation, or OHV Opportunities associated with the Project Area:

The goal of the proposed project is to prevent unlawful intrusions on private and public lands, habitat preservation, and direction to the OHV enthusiast on the whereabouts of legal venues and proper safety equipment. The project will also ensure that OHV enthusiasts using legal venues are operating there equipment within the parameters of federal, state, and local laws. Personnel participating in the project will also ensure enthusiasts are staying safe. By keeping legal venues safe for the OHV enthusiast, and enforcing private property intrusions, the program will encourage more people to choose legal recreation within Riverside County.

3. Describe the Applicant's formal or informal cooperation with other law enforcement agencies:

The ROVE Team meets monthly with members the Bureau of Land Management BLM, other sheriff's stations, and the Palm Springs, Desert Hot Springs, and Cathedral City Police Departments. On the eastern portion of Riverside County these agencies, to include the ROVE team, deploy monthly or semi-monthly during the peak OHV season to locations previously described. The focus of the multi-agency deployment is education and enforcement as it relates to OHV use. All law enforcement participants encourage safe riding in legal venues and prevent private property intrusions and sensitive habitat destruction by means of enforcement and education.

### Law Enforcement - Page 2

4. Does the Applicant recover a portion of the law enforcement costs directly associated with privately sponsored OHV events where sponsors have obtained a local permit? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
(Please select Yes or No)

Explain

There is no permit available to host an OHV event in the unincorporated areas of the county.

5. The Applicant agrees to implement a public education program that includes information on safety programs available in the area and how to report OHV violations? ☒ Yes ☐ No  
(Please select Yes or No)

6. Describe the Applicant's OHV law enforcement training program including how the training program educates personnel to address OHV safety and natural and cultural resource protection:

The current OHV training program is instructed by ROVE team members. Students attend an eight to ten hour period of instruction which includes the proper and safe way to operate a department OHV and how to enforce applicable laws. The class also includes instruction on how to educate the public on safe riding practices, legal venues available, and the existence of sensitive resources throughout the county. The TREAD lightly pledge is also instructed to all students.

### Law Enforcement - Page 3

7. Is the proposed project in accordance with local or federal plans and the OHMVR Division Strategic Plan? (Please select Yes or No) ☒ Yes ☐ No
8. LOCAL AGENCIES ONLY - Describe the Applicant's policies and/or agreements regarding enforcement on federal land:
- The Riverside County Off-Highway Vehicle Enforcement Team (ROVE) works closely with BLM and the US Forest Service. Many of the legal riding venues located throughout the county exist on federal lands. Enforcement and educational programs are typically a multi-agency approach with BLM, the US Forest Service, and the ROVE team working in conjunction. The Riverside County off-road ordinance and the California Vehicle Code are enforced on federal lands by the Sheriff's office. There is an agreement with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department and both these federal agencies to conduct enforcement on federal lands.
9. COUNTIES ONLY - Describe how the OHV in-lieu of tax funds are being used and whether the use of these fees complements the Applicant's project:
- Currently in-lieu funds are being used by the Riverside County Regional Parks & Open Space District. The money is used to purchase K-rails, fencing, schedule clean-ups, signage, painting, partial payment for park maintenance workers and park rangers, services and supplies, tools, partial vehicle purchasing, and research into educational programs for children reference protected species and open space conservation.

**Law Enforcement - Page 4**

10. APPLICANTS WHO MANAGE OHV RECREATION FACILITIES – Describe how your organization is meeting its operation and maintenance needs:
- N/A
11. The Applicant agrees to enforce the registration of OHVs and the other provision of Division 16.5 commencing with Section 38000 of the vehicle code and to enforce other applicable laws regarding the operation of OHVs? (Please select Yes or No) ☒ Yes ☐ No

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
 Agency: Riverside County Sheriff's Department  
 Application: Law Enforcement, ROVE

6/2/2009

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<b>APPLICANT NAME :</b>	Riverside County Sheriff's Department		
<b>PROJECT TITLE :</b>	Law Enforcement, ROVE	<b>PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :</b>	
<b>PROJECT TYPE :</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
<b>PROJECT DESCRIPTION :</b>	<p>Riverside County contains several OHV riding areas. In addition to these legal riding venues, there are numerous Bureau of Land Management (BLM) OHV legal riding trails throughout the county. Although these legal riding areas exist, many OHV riders choose to operate their vehicles illegally on public and privately owned lands. This has resulted in numerous complaints from citizens living near these areas. For the period of June 2007 through June 2008, there were 4,321 calls for service from the public regarding illegal OHV use.</p> <p>Land management agencies across California are closing more public lands to OHV recreation because of conflicts with endangered species and other resource concerns. Throughout the county, these include the fringe-toed lizard and the desert tortoise. The fringe-toed lizard is State Endangered and Federally Threatened while the desert tortoise is State Threatened and Federally Threatened per the California Department of Fish and Game. Increased OHV use has also resulted in conflicts with hikers, equestrians, and other recreational users.</p> <p>The Riverside County Sheriff's Department Off-Highway Vehicle Enforcement (R.O.V.E.) Team's proposed project consists of OHV education and enforcement. In the recent past, the team has been successful in both facets. Members of the team protect the rights of private land owners and ensure safe OHV operation within the legal venues available throughout the county. The requested funding has two purposes. The first is to cover manpower, and the second is to assist with the maintenance expenses associated with the use of the department's current OHV fleet.</p> <p>The increased number of man-hours will result in more successful OHV education and enforcement. Presently the team deploys three days a week. That number periodically increases with the use of previously acquired grant funds to cover overtime. Enforcement occurs on weekends, weekdays, and holidays popular with OHV riders during the peak season, and as necessary throughout the year. Deputies enforce OHV laws and regulations and undertake various administrative duties (i.e. data collection, crime analysis, emergency operations, and community outreach events). During every contact with OHV enthusiasts, deputies educate and provide literature to people on legal riding venues and equipment used to operate OHV's safely. The team's new proposed project is requesting additional funding for future overtime.</p> <p>The R.O.V.E. Team is the primary OHV enforcement and education entity within the department and has certified all of its members with two-wheel and four-wheel safety course certifications. The team currently has in it's fleet six street legal dirt bikes, four UTV's, four ATV's, two 37' trailers, two trucks, and four SUV's (Ford Expedition XLT's). All of the equipment was purchased/leased with OHMVR grant funds except for three of the SUV's. Three of the SUV's are paid for by department funds. The SUV's are a critical component to the overall success of the project. They are used to haul dirt bikes to legal and illegal venues throughout the county. In addition, they are all equipped with four wheel drive, and are used for enforcement and prisoner transport. With a large OHV fleet, safe storage of this equipment was a necessity. All of the equipment, except for the three department funded SUV's, are stored at a local storage facility in the city of Beaumont. The facility provides covered parking for both trailers. Additional OHV vehicles are stored in a small roll-up container. The storage facility protects the equipment from foul weather, theft, etc. With the department's OHV fleet used so often, the machines require constant maintenance to ensure safe and successful deployments. Grant funding is being sought for maintenance of the off-road vehicles (six dirt bikes, four UTV's, and four ATV's) previously purchased with OHMVR funds.</p> <p>The R.O.V.E. Team currently participates in Allied Agency Meetings, both within and out of the county, Public Meetings, Police Activity League (P.A.L.) functions, Youth Programs, Static Displays, Safety Expos, Law Enforcement Education Programs, and Media Relations. The R.O.V.E. Team continues to identify any necessary equipment indigenous to OHV operations. This includes but is not limited to vehicles, trailers, trucks, safety equipment, computer</p>		

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	<p>equipment, etc.</p> <p>Members of the R.O.V.E. Team have written a Policy &amp; Procedure Manual for R.O.V.E. operations. The team has discussed with B.L.M., the U.S. Forest Service, and other allied agencies the design/implementation of a pamphlet specific to Riverside County. The pamphlet will prevent misinterpretation of legal/illegal riding areas within the county. The pamphlet is currently being developed.</p> <p>The R.O.V.E. program has increased the lawful and recreational use of OHV's. With the continued support of the department and the California State Parks, these objectives will continue to be met.</p>
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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>							
<b>Program Expenses</b>							
<b>1</b>	<b>Staff</b>						
	Sergeant	155.000	79.460	HRS	12,316.00	0.00	12,316.00
	Law Enforcement Officers	1246.000	53.470	HRS	66,624.00	0.00	66,624.00
	<b>Total for Staff</b>				78,940.00	0.00	78,940.00
<b>2</b>	<b>Contracts</b>						
<b>3</b>	<b>Materials / Supplies</b>						
<b>4</b>	<b>Equipment Use Expenses</b>						
	Vehicle Operations and Maintenance Notes : Annual routine maintenance: 4 Quads, 5 Dirt Bikes and 4 UTV (Yamaha)	14.000	1860.000	EA	26,040.00	0.00	26,040.00
<b>5</b>	<b>Equipment Purchases</b>						
	Other-Vehicle Lease Fees Notes : The Ford Expedition XLT's SUV's are a critical component to the overall success of the project. They are used to haul dirt bikes to legal and illegal venues throughout the county. In addition, they are all equipped with four wheel drive, and are used for enforcement and prisoner transport.	12.000	599.470	MOS	0.00	7,194.00	7,194.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
Agency: Riverside County Sheriff's Department  
Application: Law Enforcement, ROVE

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	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Other-Vehicle Lease Fees Notes : The Ford Expedition XLT's SUV's are a critical component to the overall success of the project. They are used to haul dirt bikes to legal and illegal venues throughout the county. In addition, they are all equipped with four wheel drive, and are used for enforcement and prisoner transport.	12.000	628.050	MOS	0.00	7,537.00	7,537.00
	Other-Vehicle Lease Fees Notes : The Ford Expedition XLT's SUV's are a critical component to the overall success of the project. They are used to haul dirt bikes to legal and illegal venues throughout the county. In addition, they are all equipped with four wheel drive, and are used for enforcement and prisoner transport.	12.000	779.490	MOS	0.00	9,354.00	9,354.00
	<b>Total for Equipment Purchases</b>				0.00	24,085.00	24,085.00
<b>6</b>	<b>Others</b>						
	Other-Annual Storage Unit Fees Notes : All of the equipment, except for the three department funded SUV's, are stored at a local storage facility in the city of Beaumont. The facility provides covered parking for both trailers. Additional OHV vehicles are stored in a small roll-up container. The storage facility protects the equipment from foul weather, theft, etc.	1.000	11088.000	YR	0.00	11,088.00	11,088.00
<b>7</b>	<b>Administrative Costs</b>						
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>					104,980.00	35,173.00	140,153.00
<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>					104,980.00	35,173.00	140,153.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>					<b>104,980.00</b>	<b>35,173.00</b>	<b>140,153.00</b>

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009  
Agency: Riverside County Sheriff's Department  
Application: Law Enforcement, ROVE

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
<b>DIRECT EXPENSES</b>					
<b>Program Expenses</b>					
1	Staff	78,940.00	0.00	78,940.00	
2	Contracts	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	26,040.00	0.00	26,040.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	0.00	24,085.00	24,085.00	
6	Others	0.00	11,088.00	11,088.00	
7	Administrative Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>		104,980.00	35,173.00	140,153.00	
<b>TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES</b>		104,980.00	35,173.00	140,153.00	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>104,980.00</b>	<b>35,173.00</b>	<b>140,153.00</b>	



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**ITEM 1 and ITEM 2**

**ITEM 1**

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
(Please select Yes or No)

**ITEM 2**

- b. ITEM 2 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☐ Yes ☒ No  
(Please select Yes or No)
- c. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☒ Yes ☐ No
- d. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 3 – 9

**ITEM 3 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands**

**ITEM 4 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project**

**ITEM 5 - Soil Impacts**

**ITEM 6 - Damage to Scenic Resources**

**ITEM 7 - Hazardous Materials**

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

**ITEM 8 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources**

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the potential impacts and for any substantially adverse changes in the significance of historical or cultural resources and measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the impacts.

**ITEM 9 - Indirect Significant Impacts**

**CEQA/NEPA Attachment**